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U.S. Department of the Interior • U.S. Geological Survey

# MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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## MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN NOVEMBER 1996

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in November 1996 decreased about 16% compared to the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Annualized production through November was slightly higher than the total production in 1995, 43.4 million metric tons.

Domestic phosphate rock sold or used, excluding exports for November, remained about the same between October and November at 3.6 million tons, with total annualized sales or use running about 5% behind the total for 1995 (Table 3).

U.S. producer ending stocks for November decreased slightly compared with October. In the Florida-North Carolina region, stocks were about 2% higher, while in the Idaho-Utah region, stocks were about 10% lower compared with the previous

month.

U.S. phosphate rock export volume reported to the USGS by domestic producers in November were down about 94% compared with October 1996 exports. Phosphate rock imports from Morocco are suppressed by the Bureau of the Census; total U.S. import tonnage was estimated by USGS to average 150,000 tons per month, or 1.8 million tons per year. November import data were not available at the time of publication.

Apparent domestic consumption for the month of October, calculated from the sum of home deliveries and adjusted import data, translated to an annual rate of 42.5 million tons per year, compared with 42.6 million tons in 1995.

TABLE 1  
UNITED STATES PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS, BY REGION 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Region and Period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used			Ending stocks 2/
		Domestic	Exports	Total	
Florida and North Carolina:					
1995:					
Jan.- June 3/	19,300	18,000	1,470	19,500	4,080 4/
November	2,930	2,710	202	2,910	3,800
December	2,910	2,940	264	3,200	3,670 2/
July-Dec. 3/	18,700	17,300	1,290	18,600	3,670 4/
Jan.-Dec.	38,000	35,300	2,760	38,100	XX
1996:					
January	2,980	2,790	158	2,950	3,690
February	2,900	2,670	275	2,950	3,690
March	3,170	2,890	231	3,120	3,750
April	3,140 e/	2,900 e/	W	2,900 e/	3,850 e/
May	3,200	2,750	W	2,750	4,170
June	3,140	2,690	W	2,690	4,860
Jan.- June 3/	18,500	16,700	W	16,700	4,080 4/
July	3,070	3,160	W	3,160	4,660
August	3,310	3,250	W	3,250	4,670
September	2,990	3,170	W	3,170	4,430
October	3,310	3,100	W	3,100	4,490
November	3,280	3,150	W	3,150	4,600
Idaho and Utah:					
1995:					
Jan.- June 3/	2,670	2,650	--	2,650	2,100 4/
November	371	379	--	379	1,950
December	335	396	--	396	2,040 2/
July-Dec.	2,820	2,970	--	2,970	2,040 4/
Jan.-Dec.	5,490	5,620	--	5,620	XX
1996:					
January	250	382	--	382	1,920 e/
February	383 e/	315 e/	--	315 e/	2,010 e/
March	421	389	--	389	2,000 e/
April	564	495	--	495	2,070 e/
May	618	511	--	511	2,200
June	554 e/	552 e/	--	552 e/	2,190 e/
Jan.- June 3/	2,790	2,640	--	2,640	2,190 4/
July	614 e/	614 e/	--	614 e/	2,190 e/
August	591	576	--	576	2,190 e/
September	552	690 e/	--	690 e/	1,930 e/
October	860	501	--	501	1,920
November	241	427	--	427	1,730
United States:					
1995:					
Jan.- June 3/	22,000	20,700	1,470	22,100	6,180 4/
November	3,300	3,090	202	3,290	5,750
December	3,250	3,330	264	3,600	5,710 2/
July-Dec.	21,500	20,300	1,290	21,600	5,710 4/
Jan.-Dec.	43,500	40,900	2,760	43,700	XX
1996:					
January	3,230	3,170	158	3,330	5,610 e/
February	3,280 e/	2,990 e/	275	3,260 e/	5,700 e/
March	3,590	3,280	231	3,510	5,750 e/
April	3,700 e/	3,400 e/	W	3,400 e/	5,920 e/
May	3,820	3,260	W	3,260	6,370
June	3,690 e/	3,240 e/	W	3,240 e/	7,050 e/
Jan.- June 3/	21,300	19,300	W	19,300	7,050 4/
July	3,690 e/	3,780 e/	W	3,780 e/	6,840 e/
August	3,900	3,830	W	3,830	6,860
September	3,540	3,860 e/	W	3,860 e/	6,360 e/
October	4,170	3,600	W	3,600	6,410
November	3,520	3,580	W	3,580	6,330

e/ Estimated. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. XX Not applicable.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes inventory adjustments.

3/ Final data. This is reported in the Annual Review publication, "Marketable Phosphate Rock", September 1996. Previously reported monthly data are preserved to show month-to-month activities that closely follow the production, sales/use and inventory data acquired through monthly surveys.

4/ As of June 30 or December 31, respectively.

TABLE 2  
U.S. IMPORTS 1/ 2/ 3/ AND EXPORTS 4/ OF PHOSPHATE ROCK 5/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Imports		Exports	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1995:				
Jan.-June 1995	345	17,400	1,470 6/	37,700 6/
November	144 e/	7,240 e/	202	6,340
December	150 e/	7,540 e/	264	7,680
Jan.-Dec. 1995	1,080 e/	55,200 e/	2,760 6/	73,900 6/
1996:				
January	(7/)	32	158	4,050
February	64	3,730	275	8,820
March	49	2,790	231	7,210
April	(7/)	2	W	W
May	62	3,660	W	W
June	64	3,710	W	W
Jan.-June 1996	239	13,900	W	W
July	70	3,990	W	W
August	67	3,870	W	W
September	66	3,820	W	W
October	(7/)	26	W	W
November	NA	NA	W	W

e/ Estimated. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

1/ Data supplied by the Bureau of the Census under the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States HTS Nos. 2510.10.0000 and 2510.20.0000.

2/ C.i.f. (cost, insurance, and freight) values at U.S. ports.

3/ Excludes data suppressed by the Bureau of the Census.

4/ Quantity and value f.o.b. mine reported by respondents in the monthly survey.

5/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

6/ As reported in the Annual Review 1995 publication, "Marketable Phosphate Rock", September 1996

7/ Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3  
COMPARATIVE PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons per year and dollars per metric ton for period shown)

	1993	1994	1995	1996 (YTD annualized)
United States:				
Marketable production:				
Florida and North Carolina	29.9	34.0	37.5	37.7
Idaho and Utah	5.2	7.1	5.9	6.2
Total 1/	35.5	41.1	43.4	43.8
Sold or used by producers: 2/				
Florida and North Carolina	34.7	37.4	38.0	36.3
Idaho and Utah	5.9	6.7	5.6	6.0
Total 1/	40.1	44.1	43.6	41.5
Yarend stocks	9.2	6.0	5.7	XX
Exports	3.2	2.8	2.9	W
Average value per ton	\$28.51	\$25.60	\$25.66	\$31.96 3/
Imports for consumption	1.4 e/	1.8 e/	1.8 e/	0.5
Average value per ton	\$60.45	\$48.76	51.3 e/ 4/	\$57.91 3/
Apparent consumption	38.3 e/ 5/	43.1 e/ 5/	42.6 e/ 5/	W 5/

e/ Estimated. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. XX Not applicable.

1/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

2/ Includes exports reported by producers.

3/ Calculated from nonannualized 1996 data, January through the most recent month of available reporting.

4/ Calculated from nonannualized 1995 data, January through December.

5/ Calculated as total domestic sales or used plus imports minus exports, where imports are estimated to average about 150,000 tons per month, (and though the average monthly estimate may appreciably exceed any one month's reported imports).